

# SPORTS



Photo by Veronica Green

John Charles, PSU Vikings' QB, lead his team to a 24-21 victory over Eastern Washington. Charles completed 25-36 passes for 390 yards, and 3 touchdowns. The 2-0 Vikings take on Texas A&I 7:00 pm Saturday at Civic Stadium.

## Portland Trail Blazer's Terry Porter Urges Library Usage In New TV PSA

Trail Blazers are supporting libraries in a new national television public service announcement (PSA) produced in cooperation with the National Basketball Association (NBA) and the American Library Association (ALA).

The 30-second PSA, shot at the Tigard (Ore.) Public Library, stars Trail Blazers' guard Terry Porter and encourages children and adults to "check out the action" at the public library.

"I was pleased to rediscover the public library," said Porter. "I had forgotten how much is there and see that now, there's so much more besides books that you can use for free. I have to say I was impressed."

The initial idea of the Trail Blazers PSA came from the Washington County Cooperative Library Services

(WCCLS), a network of 11 local libraries in Oregon, governed by seven cities, a nonprofit association and the county. WCCLS also includes school and special libraries.

"We felt that the image of a much-admired professional athlete on a well-known team, talking about the usefulness of public libraries, would impact both here in the Portland area and elsewhere," said Peggy Forcier, WCCLS coordinator. "We hope that the PSA will inspire more people to take advantage of the resources of today's public libraries."

ALA will distribute the spot to the top 50 television stations nationwide. It will be available to local stations, by request, from the ALA Public Information Office, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

## Trail Blazers Announce 1992 Preseason Schedule

The Portland Trail Blazers announced Tuesday that they will play a schedule of eight preseason games this fall, highlighted by the annual Basketball Hall of Fame game in Springfield, Massachusetts.

The Blazers and Charlotte Hornets meet in the 20th annual NBA Basketball Hall of Fame on Tuesday, November 6 at the Springfield Civic Center in Springfield, MA, birthplace of basketball and site of the Basketball Hall of Fame. The game will be telecast nationally on TNT.

The Trail Blazers will play three games in Oregon as part of the Bank of American Portland Trail Blazers Preseason Tour, Two in Portland and one in Eugene. The Cleveland Cavaliers, who tied Portland with the NBA's second-best record last season before losing to the Chicago Bulls in the Eastern Conference championship series, visit Memorial Coliseum on Wednesday,

October 21. They'll meet the Blazers at McArthur Court in Eugene two nights later. Portland hosts the Denver Nuggets at the Coliseum on Monday, October 26. The Trail Blazers plan to hold a team scrimmage open to the public at Lewis and Clark College on a date to be determined later.

Portland's preseason opens with a pair of games against the Los Angeles Lakers at their training camp in Honolulu, HI on October 16 and 17. Other excursions include an encounter with Charlotte at Las Vegas and Sacramento at Arco Arena.

Tickets for the preseason game in Eugene are now available, (effective Tuesday, September 8) at all GI Joe's Ticketmaster out and at the Oregon Athletic Department ticket office. That game will be a homecoming for Cleveland guard Terrell Brandon, who starred for the University of Oregon before moving to the NBA prior to last season.

## Jefferson Opens PIL With Easy Win

BY JOHN PHILLIPS

The Democrats opened the 1992 Football season by running past Lincoln 34-6. Mark Burke led the way by scoring three touchdowns on runs of 10, 4, and 2 yards. Burke also kicked two extra points.

In other highlights for Jefferson, Thomas Jacob ran 19 yards for a touchdown, and Hakeem McCallister had a 35-yard kickoff return. The Democrats will face Cleveland High School at Cleveland on Friday, September 18.

In other PIL action, Benson just got by Grant 20-18 on Rashid Richey's 5-

yard run in the fourth quarter. Marshall shut out Cleveland 20-0, as Darin Kowalski opened the game with an 80-yard kickoff return. And Madison upset Wilson for the second straight year 9-6 in overtime, when James Fowler kicked a 24-yard field goal.

In a nonleague game, Roosevelt lost to Parkrose 34-20.

In other games next week: Grant at Madison, Wilson at Marshall, and in a nonleague game, Benson plays Canby at Civic Stadium. All games will be played on Friday.

### Portland Trail Blazers 1992 Preseason Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Site
Fri., Oct. 16	TBA	Los Angeles Lakers	Blaisdell Ctr., Honolulu, HI
Sat., Oct. 17	TBA	Los Angeles Lakers	Blaisdell Ctr., Honolulu, HI
Wed., Oct. 21	7:30pm	Cleveland Cavaliers	Memorial Coliseum, Portland
Fri., Oct. 23	7:00pm	Cleveland Cavaliers	McArthur Ct., Eugene, OR
Mon., Oct. 26	7:30pm	Denver Nuggets	Memorial Coliseum, Portland
Fri., Oct. 30	7:30pm	Charlotte Hornets	Mack Ctr., Las Vegas, NV
Sun., Nov. 1	7:30pm	Sacramento Kings	Arco Arena, Sacramento, CA
Tue., Nov. 3	8:05pm	Charlotte Hornets	Springfield, CC, Springfield, MA
			All Times Local

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# BLAZER MANIA

## Meet The Newest Blazers!

In the next four weeks I will cover the newest players to join the Portland Trail Blazers this summer. And now, introducing:

### Rod Strickland

Rod Strickland, ranked among the NBA's top point guards the past two seasons, signed a free agent contract with the Portland Trail Blazers in June.

Strickland ranked fifth in the league in assists last season with an 8.6 average, to go along with a scoring average of 13.8 points in 57 games as the San Antonio Spurs' floor leader. The 6-foot-3 four-year veteran tied for 12th with Terry Porter on the league's assist list with an 8.0 average during the 1990-91 season.

"Rod Strickland has proven to be a very good point guard, one of the best penetrators in the game and terrific on the fastbreak," said Geoff Petrie, Portland's senior vice-president of operations in making the announcement. "His presence in our lineup gives us much more flexibility among our guards than we have had before. He has made strides on an off the court during the past year and should have a bright future with the Blazers."

"Obviously, we're excited to be able to sign a player of Strickland's ability. We are always seeking to improve our team and the addition of Rod Strickland is a significant step in that ongoing process."

In four seasons with the New York Knicks and San Antonio Spurs, Strickland has averaged 11.4 points, 6.3 assists and 27.4 minutes, shooting .464 from the field and .669 at the foul line, in 278 games. His 3.67 assist/turnover ratio through four seasons was bettered by only six players during the 1991-92 NBA season.

After sitting out the first 24 games of last season with a contract holdout, Strickland averaged 13.8 points, 8.6 assists, 2.07 steals and 36.0 minutes for the Spurs. He poured in a career-high 28 points against Indiana on February 6 and distributed a career-high 19 assists at Minnesota on March 3. He charted 22 double-doubles and scored in double-figures 48 times, including topping the 20-point mark on eight occasions.

"At the end of this past season one of the needs we identified for our team was someone who could play point guard behind Terry Porter," said Blaz-

ers' head coach Rick Adelman. "Rod Strickland gives us a player who can play behind Terry and Clyde Drexler. We're fortunate that our point guard, Terry Porter, has the ability to be effective at the off-guard position. The only other player like that is Joe Dumars of Detroit. Most teams don't have that flexibility. Strickland is a quality point guard who should really help our team."

Strickland was the 19th pick of the first round in the 1988 Draft by the New York Knicks following an outstanding three-year career at DePaul University that culminated with his being named First Team All-American by The Sporting News. He was named to the NBA all-Rookie Second Team before being traded to San Antonio in exchange for veteran guard Maurice Cheeks on February 21, 1990. He enjoyed a strong post-season in 1990 in which he averaged 12.3 points and 11.3 assists in 10 games. His assist mark ranked third among all playoff participants.

The 6-foot-3 185-pound Strickland makes his off-season home in Newark, NJ. He was born July 11, 1966 and grew up in Bronx, NY.

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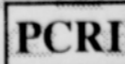
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